



Los Angeles County
Commission on Disabilities
Celebrating 29 Years of Leadership & Advocacy



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Carlton L. Russell
Bernard Siegel
John B. Troost
Wendy Welt
Shelia D. Wright

MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2005, at Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 140, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lane called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Introductions of Commissioners, staff and the public followed.

Chair Lane requested a moment of silence for the victims of the Metro Link train accident.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 15, 2004 MEETING
MINUTES

(This item was continued to the February 16, 2005 meeting.)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Lane introduced and welcomed Irma Resendez the newest Commission appointee representing the 1st Supervisorial District.

Chair Lane also reported the following:

- Commissioner Wright has been appointed as Secretary to the Commission. Her job duties will be discussed at the next meeting.
- The goal of the Commission is to raise its visibility with the Board of Supervisors.
- Chair Lane met with 3rd and 4th District Deputies and Steve MacDonald to discuss the issue of cable ramps. ADA approved cable ramps cost \$600 to purchase as opposed to the fine for not having ADA compliant cable ramps which is \$4,000. Chair Lane will also be meeting with representatives of the entertainment and film industry to mitigate any problems and will report back in February.
- An ADA Symposium is scheduled for May 17-19, 2005 in Kansas City.

- A news article was distributed for Commissioner review regarding a census which is being conducted of the homeless in Los Angeles County.

STAFF REPORT

Dedie Ward noted the following items:

- County Counsel is currently reviewing the Fundraiser Announcement and qualifications.
- Four applicants have submitted their resumes for the fundraiser position.
- An update on the trust fund balance and costs breakdown was provided for Commissioner review. As of November 15, 2004 the Commission had an actual balance in the Trust Fund of \$52,102.19. The luncheon event provided the following revenue: ticket sales, \$20,455; sponsorships and donations, \$15,600; in-kind donations, approximately \$11,000.

UPDATE ON STATUS AND ACTIVITIES OF LILA PROJECT – ALAN TOY

Alan Toy gave an update on the status of funding for the LILA project saying that at this time, thanks to the assistance of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, the project has obtained the necessary funding to continue operating for the upcoming year. Future funding from the County for this project is doubtful at this time. The organization will have to seek alternative funding resources to sustain its operation in the future. Mr. Toy stated that the Commission could help with this project by urging the Board of Supervisors to continue funding for LILA.

On motion of Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Troost and unanimously carried, the Commission will submit a letter to the Board of Supervisors in support of providing continued funding for the LILA Project.

UPDATE ON KTYM RADIO 1460 AM COMMUNITY FORUM PROGRAM – VICE CHAIR NEAL

Commissioner Neal reported on the latest episode of the radio show:

- Good feedback was received from people in the community.
- Donnie Anderson has taken a leave of absence from the program which is now scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month.
- Commissioner Neal is now the commentator for the show.
- Commissioner Neal is readying the show to attract participation by young people and insist them in preparing for leadership roles.
- The main topic of today's show was: "As a disabled person do you feel included in Dr. Martin Luther King's Dream?"
- Teachers have expressed an interest in the program and have requested copies of the show tape.

- The Tainter Scholarship Program was also discussed during today's program.
- Commissioners were requested to provide information for the show by the second week of every month.

CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TRAINING FORUM ON MARCH 29-31, 2005, SACRAMENTO, CA – ERNEST HAMILTON

Commissioner Hamilton provided information on the upcoming Employment Training Forum and stated that he is requesting approval from the Commission to attend the conference and also for approval for the funds to cover the expenditures to attend the conference. An estimate of the costs to attend the conference will be presented to the Commission for ratification at the next meeting in February.

On motion of Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commission Neal, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved Commissioner Hamilton's request to provide funding for his expenditures to attend the California Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities Training Forum scheduled for March 29-31, 2005 in Sacramento, California.

PRESENTATION ON PROPOSITION 63 (MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE) IMPLEMENTATION CONFERENCE ON FEBRUARY 12, 2005 – CHRISTINE MARGE, OUTREACH COORDINATOR, SEIU, LOCAL 660

Christine Marge, Outreach Coordinator, SEIU, Local 660, provided an overview on the conference and its initiatives and requested the Commission's participation as one of the sponsors/supporters of the event.

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Siegel, seconded by Commissioner Neal and duly carried, (Commissioners Jensen and Gureckas voted no) the Commission voted to send a letter of endorsement in support of this event. Staff is to review the conference materials for appropriateness before the endorsement is sent.

DISCUSSION ON PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES – COMMISSIONER WRIGHT

Commissioner Wright provided a detailed review on the Parliamentary Duties and Rights of Commissioners and the Parliamentary Guidelines developed in 1998. These procedures have not been voted on previously or ratified by the

Commission, and Commissioner Wright is presenting the material today for consideration, review and approval.

On motion of Commissioner Siegel, seconded by Commissioner Hamilton, and duly carried, (Commissioner Neal abstained) the Commission voted to accept the Parliamentary Duties and Rights of Commissioners and Parliamentary Guidelines in concept.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Public Relations Committee – Commissioner Krzyzanowski**
Commissioner Krzyzanowski extended an invitation for Commissioner Resendez to participate on this committee and updated the Commission on the following:
 1. He recently met with Gordon Anthony to discuss the sunset review date for the Commission and the preparation of a document outlining the Commission's accomplishments.
 2. The Committee is looking into creating material advertising the Commission on the internet and publishing a Commission brochure.

Commissioner Neal proposed that the Commission consider acknowledging individuals with disabilities within the community. Chair Lane suggested that Commissioner Neal get together with the Public Relations Committee to consider establishing an acknowledgment program.

DISCUSSION OF COMMISSION GOALS FOR 2005

This item was continued to the next meeting.

ITEMS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA TO BE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA

Commissioner Hamilton stated that the Independent Living Center designated for his residential area is not adequately serving the constituents of the 2nd District. Commissioner Hamilton stated that he would like this issue addressed by the Commission at an upcoming meeting, and also invite various businesses and city officials within the Second District to participate in a discussion of this matter.

It was suggested that since the State Department of Rehabilitation is the administrator of Independent Living Centers, Commissioner Hamilton could prepare an issues list for Commission Jensen, the representative on the Commission from the State Department of Rehabilitation, to review before proceeding with this issue.

Commissioner Resendez commented that she would like to give a presentation at the next meeting on the organization she represents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jess Segovia, Access Services, provided an update on the January 24, 2005 meeting of Access Services. Items mentioned were:

- The Para-Transit Plan Issue Papers were taken to the Board for approval.
- The Issues and Plan were approved with the following stipulations:
 1. Same day services would be eliminated;
 2. Emergency service would remain at the current level;
 3. Reclassification of steady service/subscription service as a premium;
 4. Performance standards will be the same as ADA required next day service.
- At this time, the ASI chose not to make a decision regarding the service in Santa Clarita, but will continue to monitor and study the services.
- Night Owl Service was not eliminated and remains in effect.

Commissioner Krzyzanowski requested that the Commission adjourn in memory of the 60th anniversary of the closing of the Auschwitz Death Camp, and Commissioner Neal requested that the Commission adjourn in memory of Captain Scott Miller, Los Angeles City Fire Department.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion the Commission adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Carol Lane, Chair
Janet Neal, Vice Chair
Michael Gureckas
Ernest Hamilton
Richard Krzyzanowski
Irma Resendez
Harley Rubenstein
Carlton Russell
Bernard Siegel
John Troost
Shelia Wright

Board of Supervisors

Gene Romig
Jim Corbett
Dedie Ward
Ken Wales

Guests

Donald Brandon
Alan Toy, LILA
Jess Segovia, Access Services
Mary Griffith, L.A.C.A.A.A.
Mary Sanders, InfoLine

Absent

Kecia Weller, Treasurer
Ruth Acosta
Viola Corbett
Wendy Welt

Department Liaisons

Juan Benitez, Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Carlton Lindo, Dept. of Consumer Affairs
Susan Susman, Dept. of Consumer Affairs